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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MANAMA 001010

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/06/2017

TAGS: PREL PGOV KPAL IS IZ IR BA
SUBJECT: IRAQ - AMBASSADOR CROCKER'S MEETINGS WITH BAHRAINI LEADERSHIP

MANAMA 00001010 001.2 OF 002 Classified by: Ambassador Adam J Ereli for reason 1.4 (b) (d)

1.(C) SUMMARY: Crown Prince Salman took the lead for the GOB in pledging Bahrain's continued support for U.S. efforts in Iraq. It would examine 2.(U) Bahrain's King Hamad, his son Crown Prince Salman, and Foreign Minister Khalid bin Ahmad al Khalifa received visiting Ambassador to Iraq 3.(C) Crocker and Petraeus thanked Bahrain's leadership for hosting the Coalition Conference. In each meeting, Crocker explained that he was vi 5.(C) The Crown Prince praised the strong positive relationship between the U.S. and Bahrain, and Bahrain's continued support for a robust U.S. 6.(C) On Irag, the CP expressed strong doubts about the Maliki government, calling it closely linked to Iran. The CP said the GOB had invited M 7.(C) Ambassador Crocker responded that Arab governments must take the longer view; they should focus not on Iraqi personalities, which will ch 8.(C) The Crown Prince agreed that an Arab counterweight to Iranian influence in Iraq was very important. The Arabs must seek to contain Iran's 9.(C) The Crown Prince replied "I've received the message." He would press other Arabs to do more in support of stability in Iraq, but he stres 10.(C) With King Hamad, Ambassador Crocker made the same points. The King expressed appreciation for Crocker's visit and his update, but offere

11.(C) Shaikh Khalid suggested that the GCC, Jordan, Yemen and Turkey should coordinate action on Iraq and proposed a meeting for this purpose